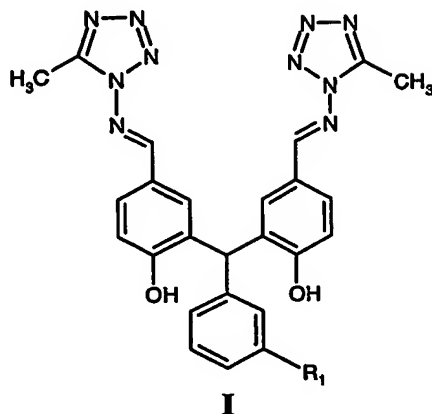


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound having the formula:



wherein:

R₁ represents a radical selected from the group consisting of alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, halogen, nitro, carboxy, carboxyalkyl, carbalkoxy, carbalkoxyalkyl, carboxamide, carboxamidoalkyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, sulfonamide, amidino, cyano, amino, amido, alkylamino, dialkylamino, alkylaminoalkyl, and alkoxy monosubstituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of carboxy, amino, alkylamino and dialkylamino; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts of said compound.

2. A compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:

2,2'-[(3-Propylphenyl)methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-(Dimethylamino)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-(Methylethyl)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[(3-Methylphenyl)methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[(3-Methoxyphenyl)methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[(3-Ethoxyphenyl)methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[(3-Chlorophenyl)methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[(3-Bromophenyl)methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-(2-Ethylbutyl)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-(Cyclohexyl)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[(3-Butylphenyl)methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[(3-Fluorophenyl)methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[(3-Pentylphenyl)methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-(1-Methylpropyl)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-(2-Methylpropyl)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-(3-Methoxyethyl)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[(3-Ethylphenyl)methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-Ethyl(methylethyl)amino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-Ethylpropylamino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[[3-(Diethylamino)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[[3-(Butylethylamino)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[[3-(Methylamino)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]-N,N-diethylbenzenesulfonamide;

2,2'-[[[3-(2-Dimethylaminoethoxy)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

N-[[3-[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxylphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-2,2-dimethylpropanamide;

N-[[3-[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxylphenyl]methylene]phenyl]butanesulfonamide;

2,2'-[[[3-(Nitrophenyl)methylene]bis[4-[[5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[[3-(Methylthiophenyl)methylene]bis[4-[[5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[[3-(Methylsulfinylphenyl)methylene]bis[4-[[5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[[3-(Methylsulfonylphenyl)methylene]bis[4-[[5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]-N,N-dimethylbenzenesulfonamide;

2,2'-[[[3-(Propylaminophenyl)methylene]bis[4-[[5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[[3-[2-(Diethylaminopropoxy)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

N-[[3-[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxylphenyl]methylene]phenyl]acetamide;

N-[[3-[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-N-propylacetamide;

N-[[3-[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-N-(methylethyl)acetamide;

N-[[3-[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-3-methyl-N-propylbutanamide;

N-[[3-[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-3-methyl-N-(methylethyl)butanamide;

N-[[3-[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-3-methyl-N-methylbutanamide;

N-[[3-[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-N-ethylacetamide;

N-[[3-[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]phenyl]propane sulfonamide; and

2,2'-[[3-Methyl(methylethyl)aminophenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol.

3. The compound according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

2,2'-[(3-Propylphenyl)methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol,

2,2'-[(3-Dimethylamino)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol,

2,2'-[[3-(Methylethyl)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol,

2,2'-[[3-(Methoxyethyl)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol,

2,2'-[[[3-Ethyl(methylethyl)amino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol, and

2,2'-[[3-(Diethylamino)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol.

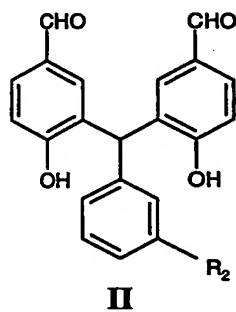
4. The compound according to claim 1 having the name 2,2'-[(3-Propylphenyl)methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol.
5. The compound according to claim 1 having the name 2,2'-[[[3-Dimethylamino)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol.
6. The compound according to claim 1 having the name 2,2'-[[3-(Methylethyl)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol.
7. The compound according to claim 1 having the name 2,2'-[[[3-Methoxyethyl)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol.
8. The compound according to claim 1 having the name 2,2'-[[[3-Ethyl(methylethyl)amino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol.
9. The compound according to claim 1 having the name 2,2'-[[[3-Diethylamino)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol.
10. The compound according to claim 1 having the name 2,2'-[[[3-Ethylpropylamino)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol.
11. A pharmaceutical composition for treating or preventing pneumovirus infection, said composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 in an amount effective to attenuate infectivity of said virus, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier medium.
12. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, further comprising at least one supplemental active agent selected from the group consisting of interferons, ribavirin and immunomodulators, immunoglobulins, anti-inflammatory agents, antibiotics, anti-virals and anti-infectives.

13. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein said pharmaceutical composition comprises ethanol.
14. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein said pharmaceutical composition comprises propylene glycol.
15. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein said pharmaceutical composition comprises water.
16. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein said pharmaceutical composition comprises at least 50% ethanol.
17. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein said pharmaceutical composition comprises at least 60% ethanol.
18. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein said pharmaceutical composition comprises at least 70% ethanol.
19. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein said pharmaceutical composition comprises at least 80% ethanol.
20. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein said pharmaceutical composition comprises at least 90% ethanol.
21. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable carrier medium comprises ethanol, water, and propylene glycol.
22. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein said pharmaceutical composition comprises about 85% ethanol, about 10% propylene glycol, and about 5% water.

23. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 21, wherein said pharmaceutical composition comprises less than 5% water.
24. A method of treatment of pneumovirus infection in a patient in need of said treatment, said method comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
25. A method according to claim 24, wherein said compound is administered through inhalation.
26. A method according to claim 24, wherein said compound is administered by an electrostatic delivery device.
27. A method according to claim 26, wherein said electrostatic delivery device is hand-held.
28. A method as according to claim 26, wherein said electrostatic delivery device is disposable.
29. A method according to claim 26, wherein said electrostatic delivery device is for a single user.
30. A method according to claim 26, wherein said electrostatic delivery device comprises a removable mouthpiece.
31. A method according to claim 26, wherein said electrostatic delivery device comprises a mask.
32. A method of treating cells in culture that are susceptible to infection by, or infected or contaminated with a pneumovirus, said method comprising administering to said cultures an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

33. A method of treating biological materials that are susceptible to infection by, or infected or contaminated with a pneumovirus, said method comprising administering to said materials an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

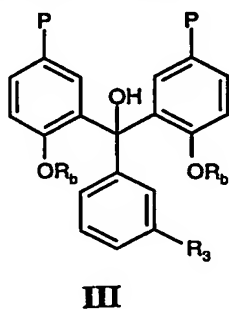
34. A compound having the formula:




wherein:

R_2 represents a radical selected from the group consisting of alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, halogen, nitro, carboxy, carboxyalkyl, carbalkoxy, carbalkoxyalkyl, carboxamide, carboxamidoalkyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, sulfonamide, amidino, cyano, amino, amido, alkylamino, dialkylamino, alkylaminoalkyl, and alkoxy monosubstituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of carboxy, amino, alkylamino and dialkylamino.

35. A compound having the formula:

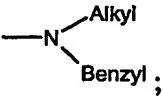


wherein R_b is selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_3$, -

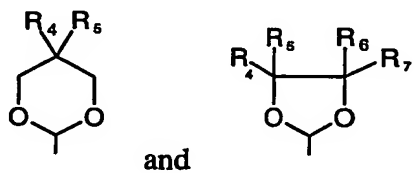
$\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2-\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2-\text{OCH}_3$, , $-\text{CH}_2-\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2-\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_3$, $-\text{CH}_3$, -
 $\text{CH}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_3$, $-\text{CON}(\text{R}_c\text{R}_d)_2$, $-\text{CSN}(\text{R}_c\text{R}_d)_2$, and $-\text{PO}(\text{NR}_c\text{R}_d)_2$;

R_c and R_d are independently selected from an alkyl group;

R_3 represents a radical selected from the group consisting of alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, halogen, carboxyalkyl, carbalkoxy, carbalkoxyalkyl, carboxamide, carboxamidoalkyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, sulfonamide, amidino, cyano, amino, amido, alkylamino, dialkylamino, alkylaminoalkyl, and alkoxy monosubstituted with a substituent

selected from the group consisting of carboxy, dialkylamino, and  ;

and P is a protected formaldehyde group selected from the group consisting of:



wherein R_4 , R_5 , R_6 and R_7 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl.